



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 323-3018

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Andrew Molera Condor Feeding Site

LOCATION: Andrew Molera State Park

COUNTY: Monterey

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Establish a California condor feeding site on East Molera Ridge in Andrew Molera State Park. The proposed site is located about 100 meters to the south of and 150 meters downhill from the junction of the East Molera Trail and the East Molera Ridge Road. The surrounding topography is moderately to severely steep, but the site is located on a gently sloping notch on an east/west aligned ridge. The vegetation at the site consists largely of non-native grasses and forbs. No sensitive species are known to exist on the site or surrounding area. The purpose of the project is to establish a condor feeding site which 1) can be easily observed, for research purposes, from the Ventana Wilderness Society (VWS) field office; 2) can be observed by visitors, through spotting scopes; and 3) will expand condor feeding sites within their range. No condor feeding sites currently exist on State Parks land. The feeding site would consist of one or two 4 foot pieces of rebar pounded 2 feet into the ground. If two pieces of rebar are used, they would be placed approximately 50 feet apart. Periodically, depending on site usage, animal carcasses would be attached to the rebar stakes and left for the condors. Carcasses would be transported by pick-up truck along the East Molera Road above the site, and then be hiked into the site in backpacks (not dragged). All work would be conducted by VWS field staff. A ten foot radius area surrounding the rebar may be partially denuded due to feeding activities.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Monterey District

EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 4

Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of minor alteration to the conditions of land and vegetation (which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees), to improve habitat for wildlife, included as "Resource Management Projects" on the Department of Parks and Recreation's List of Exempt Activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

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Philip Jenkins
District Superintendent
Monterey District

DATE